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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/782,926	02/23/2004	Yoshihiro Imajo	HITA.0518	7547

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HOAN C

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2871

DATE MAILED: 10/25/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/782,926	<b>Applicant(s)</b> IMAJO ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> HOAN C. NGUYEN	<b>Art Unit</b> 2871	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 August 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 3 and 5-38 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2, 4 and 39-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) ·<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                        | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                         |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Amendment*

Applicant's arguments with respect to the amended claim 1 and new claims 39-40 on 8/14/2006 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Therefore, this is Final action.

Claim 1 is cancelled. Claims 3 and 5-38 are withdrawn. Claims 2, 4 and 39-41 are now pending.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1. Claims 2, 4 and 39-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Fukuta et al. (US6903794B2).

In regard to claim 1, Fukuta et al. teach (Fig. 1) a display device comprising

- a display panel 10
- another member 11/11b/20 different from the display panel, which is mounted on the back surface of the display panel;

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- a first board (flexible substrate 3) mounted a connector (an external connection terminal 4a), which allows inputting of video data thereon and
- a second board (connection electrode 15) mounted with a display control circuit (a semiconductor element 6) to be connected to the connector 4a thereon

wherein

- the first board and the second board are physically separated from each other
- the second board is arranged to be brought into contact with back surface of a region of the display panel except for a display portion,
- the first board is arranged to be brought into contact with back surface of the another member

wherein

Claim 4:

- an area of the second board is set smaller than an area of the first board.

Claim 39:

- the another member is a frame holding the display panel, and a backlight (11a and LED 16) is put between the frame and the display panel PNL.

Claim 40:

- each of the first board and the second board has a connector to connect the first board to the second board.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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2. Claims 2, 4 and 39-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Terao et al. (US6342932B1).

In regard to claim 1, Terao et al. teach (Fig. 3) a display device comprising

- a display panel 11
- another member 10/15/22 different from the display panel, which is mounted on the back surface of the display panel;
- a first board (electrode on the surface of display panel 11 inherently makes electrical contact to the flexible circuit board 12) mounted a connector (the flexible circuit board 12), which allows inputting of video data thereon and
- a second board (PCB 20) mounted with a display control circuit inherently on PCB 20 to be connected to the connector 12 thereon.

wherein

- the first board and the second board are physically separated from each other
- the second board is arranged to be brought into contact with back surface of a region of the display panel except for a display portion,
- the first board is arranged to be brought into contact with back surface of the another member 20.
- the second board is arranged to be brought into contact with back surface of a region of the display panel except for a display portion,
- the first board is arranged to be brought into contact with back surface of the another member.

wherein

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Claim 4:

- an area of the second board is set smaller than an area of the first board.

Claim 39:

- the another member is a frame 10 holding the display panel, and a backlight (15 and 22) is put between the frame and the display panel PNL.

Claim 40:

- each of the first board and the second board has a connector to connect the first board to the second board.

Claim 41:

- the frame 10 has a through hole accommodating said connector.

***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

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the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HOAN C. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-2296. The examiner can normally be reached on MONDAY-THURSDAY:8:00AM-4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms can be reached on (571) 272-1787. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

HOAN C. NGUYEN  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2871

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ANDREW SCHECHTER  
PRIMARY EXAMINER